FOR MYSORE STATE

(~~195~~ 1948) Department.

SERIES

G.O. No.
Dated

[Despatch Abstract.]

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.
Abstract.

Establishment - Temporary - Public Works Department - Creation of a post of Press Adviser - Sanctioned.

Public (Services) Department.

G.O.Ms.No.2310. Dated 16th September 1948.

ORDER:

His Excellency the Governor of Madras sanctions the creation of a temporary post of Press Adviser to Government of the rank of Deputy Secretary to Government in Public Works Department for a peri of two months from the date of appointment or until the operations i Hyderabad are over, whichever is earlier. The Press Adviser will wo in co-ordination with the Publicity Department. {He will circulate important files through the Chief Secretary}.

2. The expenditure will be debited to "25.j. General Administration - Secretariat and Headquarters Establishments - Civil Secretariats - Pay of Officers - Voted.

3. The following notification will be published in the Fort St. George Gazette:-

Notification.

Mr. R. Prasad, I.C.S., Deputy Secretary to Government Public Works Department is appointed to act as Press Adviser to Government i the same Department.

4. The Press Adviser will utilize the existing staff in the Public Works (I & P) Deptt and submit proposals for additional staff if and when found necessary.

To the Public Works Department.
" the Accountant-General, through Finance.
" the Central Cash Bureau.
" the Public Works Department (Information & Publicity)
" R. Prasad, Esq., I.C.S., Deputy Secretary to Government.
" the Superintendent, Government Press, for publication of the notification in para 3.
" the Public (Special)
" the Public (General).

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/True Copy/

ASSISTANT CURATOR,
14.5.1953.
MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

33/2.5.

NOTE FILE.

PRESS CENSORSHIP.

For a summary of the organisation introduced for press censorship in Madras during the last war please see pp.19-24 of the stock file kept below.

Under section 11A of the Press and Registration of Books Act, 1867 of the printer of every newspaper shall deliver to such officer, as the local Govt. may direct and full of expense to the Government two copies of each issue as soon as it is published. It is recollected that copies of English papers were delivered to the Districts of the Commissioner of Police as the case may be and copies in Indian languages to the Senior Translator to Govt. copies of newspapers in English and Indian languages are also purchased by the Information and Publicity section in the Secretariat and scrutinised by the Information Officer.

In view of the operations against Hyderabad it is highly necessary that some kind of Control should be exercised over news items appearing in the papers. Certain general instructions have already been issued to the Newspapers about this but it is necessary that there should be some responsible officer who will be in close touch with the newspapers etc., Such an officer should be in a position to advise newspapers whether a particular item of news should be published or not. He should also scrutinise the various papers to see if undesirable items are being published, and if so to draw the attention of the Editor concerned to such items. During the war there was a special Press Adviser who did this scrutiny and he had a small staff under him.

While the leading papers like the Hindu, Swadesamitran, etc. may be depended upon, there are a number of smaller papers that require close scrutiny and advice. For this purpose it seems that some kind of a Press Adviser is required. I know that in Poona, the Army Command has appointed a Public Relation Officer and I suggest that we may also appoint a similar officer here. He should have a small staff under him who will be able to scrutinise the Vernacular papers particularly Urdu papers. I suggest that to begin with he may have five clerks - one for each language (Tamil, Telugu, Kanarese, Malayalam and Urdu) under him.

This officer will be responsible for seeing that undesireable items of news relating to Hyderabad are not put out in the newspapers.

If the proposal is generally approved, the Cost etc. will be worked out. The officer may be attached to the Chief Secretariat.

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I agree that a Press Adviser may be appointed temporarily during the operations in Hyderabad. But he may work in co-ordination with the Publicity Department and have such staff as would be necessary over and above what is available.

/True Copy/

Finance may see. The intention is to appoint an officer of the grade of Deputy Secretary for two months.

ASSISTANT CURATOR.
14.5.1953.
MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

33/4.5.

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FINANCE (E.III) DEPARTMEN

The case relates to the appointment of a Press Adviser in the grade of a Deputy Secretary for a period of two months for attending to Press censorship over Newspapers during the operations in Hyderabad. This officer will work in co-ordination with the Publicity Department and have such staff as would be necessary over and above what is available. vide order in circulation on p.2 above. Presumably the Press Adviser will be utilising the services of the staff in the Information and Publicity Department for the present, and the additional staff if anything required will be considered later.

2. The extra cost in account of the staff inclusive of 5 Upper Division Clerks will be Rs.367/- for two months if an Assistant Secretary is promoted as Deputy Secretary. The cost will be Rs.6236 or Rs.4786 if a Senior I.C.S. or an I.A.S. officer is appointed as Deputy Secretarys.

Finance may agree to the proposal.

H.M. (Fin) may see the case.

Fin.V.O.84868A/(EIII)I.
15.9.48.

/True Copy/

ASSISTANT CURATOR,
14.5.1953.

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